

## **Flipped**

**By: Kendra Vetterline**

***My world changed the day I headed to my family reunion. I never thought the outcome would be so traumatizing.***

**"I said I would meet you there!" I shouted at my mom. I needed her to know that I can arrive at places on time. My mom never let me behind the wheel ever since I got my license. My great-grandmother left me her car after she passed away, and it's the car I used to go for my license. "You never let me drive my car! I'm almost 18 years old, you need to trust me!" I yelled at her.**

**"Fine," she said, "but, if you hit something, it's on you. I'm only doing this to protect you! It's dangerous out there." I'm upset how she said she did it to protect me. She's clearly doing it to take my car because she's been using it lately. "I'm headed off now. Please stay safe." she said, and out the door she went.**

***At that moment, I should've taken her advice and let her protect me. I should've let her take me to the family reunion and went on with my day. But, I rebelled and made my own decisions, and that's why this happens.***

**The shock hits my body like a massive wave. It sinks me down under, but then once I come back up, another one hits. I should have listened to my mom. Now no one's here for me. I'm hanging upside down, and I have no idea what's happening to me. The blood is rushing to my head, making me feel way overwhelmed. I hear the sirens. Someone must have called the cops. "Help!" I shout, but no one comes. Until they did.**

**“Hey! You are okay, it’ll all be okay. We are going to get you out of this. Just breathe.” says someone that I can’t see. The tears flowing down my face, and it feels like the flow of a river.**

**“My mom..she-I didn’t call her, I don’t know where my phone is! I don’t know what happened!” I say, mumbling my words. She was right. It is dangerous out here.**

**They get me out of the car and I’m laying on the ground. Two ambulance people come over and put me on a stretcher and carry me to an ambulance vehicle. They put a neck brace on me and everything starts to slowly fade. Am I going to die? Will I end up okay?**

***The rest of that day was blurry. I only remember what happened after waking up three days later.***

**“Doc, she’s awake! Come quick!” I hear my mom say. Where am I? What’s going on? The doc rushes into the room and looks at me and starts writing on his computer. “Hi honey...how are you feeling?”**

**“Mom, what happened? What’s going on?” I say.**

**“You’ve been in a car accident. A drunk driver hit you and your car flipped entirely. He was driving over 70mph and he hit you head on.”**

**“What—I—“ I stutter.**

**“It’ll be okay. The doctor’s here.” she said. I look over at the doc and I have a confused look on my face.**

**“I’m okay, right?” I say and look at him. He hesitates and then looks at my mom. My mom looks at me afterwards.**

**“I regret to inform you....that from the car accident, you’re paralyzed from the waist down.” he says.**

***And that's when my entire world flipped upside down.***